

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DURHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1973

STANLEY LUDKIN, O.B.E., M.D., B.S., F.F.C.M., D.P.H.

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Health Department,
County Hall,
Durham.

March, 1974.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my annual report on the Health and School Health Services in the administrative county for the year 1973. Information relating to the general health services provided by the Easington Rural District Council under the scheme of delegation of functions is embodied in Part I but the school health service in relation to that district is dealt with as a separate subject in Part IV.

This will be my final report. Unfortunately it is not as comprehensive or as detailed as in previous years since the vital statistics normally included in the report will not be available from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys until April/May 1974. These vital statistics refer to the birth rate, death rate, and infant mortality rates together with the numbers of births and the allocation of deaths in the administrative county. These statistics will be published as an addendum to this report so that continuity of information will be maintained.

It is unfortunate that only two health centres were completed during the year and that the construction of an additional six planned for 1973/74 could not be started because of the national curtailment of expenditure on the health services by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Services generally were maintained at a satisfactory level in the county throughout the year. A great deal of attention was given to preparations for implementing the reorganisation of the National Health Service from April, 1974. An Area Profile was produced by the Durham Joint Liaison Committee of which I was chairman and other useful reports on specialist subjects were compiled by the various working groups. I was also a member of the Newcastle Region Joint Liaison Committee and most senior members of my department served on one or other of the local working groups. Every effort was made to keep health department headquarters and field staff up to date with developments and plans for the future. During the year, medical dental, nursing and administrative staff attended national and local courses on management, administration and the problems of working in an integrated health service.

The new Durham Area Health Authority will coincide geographically with the boundaries of the new Administrative County and will comprise four Health Districts. Collaboration with the Local Authority particularly in matters of Education, Social Services responsibilities and infective and communicable disease control will be of paramount importance. The new structure should enable the health authorities to establish an information service covering all three branches of the national health service - hospitals, public health and general practitioner service. This, in turn, should allow systematic, overall and comprehensive planning for the future, the allocation of resources (personnel, buildings and services) according to priorities and also to ensure that the authorities are alerted when there is a need to adjust services to meet new or modified requirements.

On leaving the service, I should like to congratulate my deputy Dr. O'Brien on his appointment as Area Medical Officer to the new authority and to express my appreciation of the loyal support I have received from my staff particularly during the last year. During my 11 years as County Medical Officer and Principal School Medical Officer to Durham County Council, I have had unfailing help and understanding from the members of the Health Committee without whom it would have been impossible to achieve a modern and efficient county service. To these members, past and present, I would like to express my gratitude.

STANLEY LUDKIN

County Medical Officer.

STAFF OF THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

County Medical Officer of Health

Stanley Ludkin, O.B.E., M.D., B.S., F.F.C.M., D.P.H.,

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health

J.M. O'Brien, M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.,

Principal Senior Medical Officers

- Administration - Elaine M. Osborne, M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M.,
D.P.H., D.C.H., D. (Obst.) R.C.O.G. (part-time)
- Child Health - Isla M.S. Gillie, M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
- Geriatrics - Margaret A. Loraine, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M.,
D.C.H., D.P.H.

Field Research and Evaluation

Audrey Sutherland, M.D., F.F.C.M., D.P.H.,
D. (Obst.) R.C.O.G.

Senior Medical Officers

- Child Health - Dorothy D. Nichol, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., M.F.C.M.,
D.P.H. (part-time)
- Paediatrics - Kathleen M. Stevens, M.B., B.S., C.P.H.

Medical Officers in Department

14 Whole-time

12 Part-time (representing 5.5 whole-time)

20 Sessional (representing 2.2 whole-time)

Assistant County Medical Officers

Area No. 1	J.A. Dryden, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H.
Area No. 2	G.H. Whalley, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., D.M.A., F.C.C.S.
Area No. 3	P.F.A. Pereira, M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Area No. 4	J.L. Siddle, M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Area No. 5	J.L. Siddle, M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Area No. 6	G.A. Macgregor, M.D., D.P.H.
Area No. 7	Audrey Wilkinson, L.R.C.P., L.M., L.R.C.S.I., M.F.C.M. D.P.H.
Area No. 8	A.S.M. Wilson, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Area No. 9	Elaine M. Osborne, M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H., D.(Obst.)R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer of Health - Delegated Authority

Easington R.D. - J.W.A. Rodgers, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

Consultant Paediatrician for Special Schools (part-time)

J.D. Andrew, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Psychiatrists

Margaret R. Walley, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. (part-time)
Elizabeth M. Bruce, M.B., B.S., D.P.M. (part-time)
Margaret A. Lewis, M.B., B.S., D.P.M. (part-time)

Principal School Dental Officer

Margaret M. Lishman, L.D.S., R.C.S.

County Health Inspector

T.S. Yarrow, C.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Health Education Officer

A.Ward, S.R.N., B.T.A., D.N., Dip in H.Ed.

County Ambulance Officer

C.G.Dewen, F.H.A., F.I.A.O., A.M.B.I.M.

Director of Nursing Services

Miss J.M.Ball, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., H.V. Tutor Cert., Q.I.D.N.

Divisional Nursing Officers

Miss D. Etherington, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Mrs. E. Hedley, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss M. Pattison, S.R.N., R.F.N., H.V.Cert.,
Nursing Administration (Public Health)

Chief Nursing Officer - Easington R.D.

Miss A. Howarth, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., Q.N.S.

Chief Speech Therapist

Mrs. M.E. Gough, L.C.S.T.

Chief Chiropodist

J.J. Woods, S.R.Ch.

PART I

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEES

Certain aspects of the health service are controlled through a system of area health sub-committees composed of serving members of the Health Committee and representatives of district councils and other local bodies. Unless special business requires otherwise, meetings are held quarterly. The number of meetings held by the area health sub-committees during the year in accordance with the scheme adopted by the County Council in 1948 was as follows:-

No. of Area	Names of County Districts comprised in the area	Number of Members	Meetings held	No. of Area	Names of County Districts comprised in the area	Number of Members	Meetings held
1	Blaydon U.D. Ryton U.D. Whickham U.D.	20	4	6	Crook & Willington U.D. Tow Law U.D. Weardale R.D.	18	4
2	Jarrow Borough Felling U.D. Hebburn U.D.	21	4	7	Durham Borough Brandon & Byshottles U.D. Spennymoor U.D. Durham R.D. Sedgefield R.D. Stockton R.D.	35	4
3	Consett U.D. Stanley U.D. Lanchester R.D.	21	4	8	Barnard Castle U.D. Barnard Castle R.D.	15	4
4	Chester-le-Street U.D. Chester-le-Street R.D.	16	4	9	Bishop Auckland U.D. Shildon U.D. Darlington R.D.	19	4
5	Boldon U.D. Hetton U.D. Houghton-le-Spring U.D. Seaham U.D. Washington U.D.	25	4				

COMMITTEES

The statutory duties placed upon the County Council in the field of public health generally and by those enactments concerned with the National Health Service in particular, continue to be discharged through the Health Committee. For the purposes of the National Health Service Acts, standing committees composed of serving members of the Health Committee and a number of co-opted representatives of outside bodies meet monthly. These committees are as follows:-

Maternity and Child Health

Ambulances

Midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting

For staffing purposes a similarly constituted committee meets as and when required.

Under a scheme of delegation drawn up in accordance with Section 46 of the Local Government Act 1958, the Rural District Council of Easington has administered certain health services in their area since 1961.

SECTION A GENERAL STATISTICS

This section has been deferred pending the publication of the Registrar General's Vital Statistics which are expected during the second quarter of 1974.

SECTION B NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

SECTION 21 - HEALTH CENTRES

The health centres at Peterlee, Boldon, Felling, Dunston, Chilton, Hetton-le-Hole, Washington, Newton Aycliffe and Spennymoor continued to operate satisfactorily during the year providing both local authority health services and general practitioner services under one roof.

Two health centres were completed during the year. The Hebburn Health Centre opened in February, providing accommodation for six doctors in three practices. The Barnard Castle Health Centre opened in May and accommodates one practice of five doctors.

Work had fortunately already commenced on the new health centres at Eaglescliffe and Stanhope when the Department of Health and Social Security withheld Loan Sanctions for a number of schemes put forward by local authorities during the current financial year. This will of course affect future developments and until further guidance is given the future of the health centre programme is obscure.

SECTION 22 - CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

A. Maternity and Child Health Clinics

In accordance with County Council and Government policy, no further purpose built local authority clinics have been opened since 1967, the aim being to develop local authority community health care within existing clinics and health centres.

1. Ante-natal clinics

The number of expectant mothers attending the local authority clinics for ante-natal care again declined during 1973. The majority of mothers now receive ante-natal care from their general practitioners and the local authority midwives working together in the doctors' surgeries. The number of centres at which ante-natal sessions are held has now been reduced to six and expectant mothers, on request, can be examined by local authority medical officers during child health sessions. Details of attendances for the past four years are as follows:-

	1970	1971	1972	1973
No. on clinic register	452	162	138	118
Total attendances	1698	1294	761	863
Average attendance/session ...	4	6	5	5

2. Mothercraft and relaxation classes

Classes were held at 38 child health clinics and are popular with patients and general practitioners alike. Attendances compared with previous years are as follows:-

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Mothers attending	1924	1463	1351	1337
Total attendances	9605	9817	8748	7414
Average attendance/session ...	5	6	6	5

3. Post-natal clinics

Examination of mothers six weeks after confinement was carried out at child health clinics either at special clinics when family planning advice is also available or during one of the other sessions. The post-natal clinics held at 3 centres were attended by 12 mothers on 22 occasions during 1973.

4. Child health clinics

The policy adopted some years ago of concentrating on screening and the early ascertainment and assessment of deviation from normal is continued. This has enabled departmental medical officers to be deployed in such a way that their skills in paediatrics are utilised to the full.

Details of the attendances were:-

	1970	1971	1972	1973
No. on clinic registers	33067	36848	35480	34890
Total attendances	170300	161565	143198	130687
Average attendance/session ...	24	29	30	20

5. Mothers' Clubs

These clubs continue to be held with the advice and help of health visitors. There are now 17 clubs run by mothers and held either fortnightly or monthly in child health centres.

6. Health visitor sessions

Health visitor sessions for hearing tests were reduced in numbers. Total attendances were 7419, the average per session being ten.

7. Family Planning

The County Council's direct service has operated since 1st April, 1973 in all but the five clinics in the northern part of the county - Blaydon, Jarrow, Ryton, Stanley and Washington.

In the past, a shortage of trained doctors has limited further extensions to the service. A training clinic for the county has however been started at Dryburn Hospital, and it is hoped to open a new clinic at Crook in the near future.

During the nine months from 1st April to 31st December 1973, 2,110 new patients were seen and methods chosen were as follows:-

1,376	Pill
316	I.U.D.
118	Diaphragm
300	Non-Medical, viz. Sheaths and Chemicals.

Total attendances at all the direct service clinics totalled 15,006 during the same period.

The demand for intra-uterine contraceptive devices continues and with the introduction of the copper 7 it is likely that additional clinic facilities will need to be made available for this method in the near future. A number of new oral contraceptives have been marketed in the last twelve months and because of the emphasis on low dosage, an increased number of women may well find this type of contraceptive acceptable.

8. Welfare Foods

Once again, I am grateful for the valuable contribution made by members of voluntary committees associated with child health clinics and health centres in accepting responsibility for the distribution of welfare foods. 71 centres are currently used for this purpose. At the end of the year, National dried milk and vitamin preparations were obtainable from 98 points including all child health clinics and 13 other premises.

The following statement shows issues during the year together with comparative figures for 1971 and 1972:

	1971	1972	1973
National dried milk (packets)	32519	43733	47664
Orange juice (bottles)	210309	60199	-
Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	6670	-	-
Vitamin A D C drops	18950	28487	25273
Vitamin tablets (packets)	7018	4001	3701

B. Dental Treatment of Mothers and Young Children

Treatment for the priority Dental Service was carried out at 20 permanent clinics and 7 mobile dental vans.

Attendance figures for 1973 were:-

					Mothers	Children
First visits	...	...	...	...	92	985
Subsequent visits	...	...	...	...	125	399
Total visits	...	...	...	...	217	1384
Additional courses of treatment commenced					11	45
Fillings	...	...	...	...	136	532
Teeth filled	...	...	...	...	127	479
Teeth extracted ..	...	...	...	...	87	274
General Anaesthetics	...	...	...	...	9	100
Emergencies	...	...	...	...	1	5
Patients X-rayed .	...	...	...	...	14	5
Prophylaxis	...	...	...	...	53	124
Teeth otherwise conserved	...	...	...	...	-	21
Courses of treatment completed ..	...	...	...	...	77	483
Patients supplied with full upper or lower denture (First time)					5	-
Patients supplied with other dentures					13	-
Number of dentures supplied					19	-
First inspections	...	...	...	...	43	1317
Requiring treatment	...	...	...	...	40	400
Offered treatment	...	...	...	...	39	399

C. Day Nurseries

The Health Department retain responsibility for medical supervision only, overall responsibility being transferred to the Director of Social Services.

D. Child Minders

Similarly the Health Department retain medical responsibility for the health of persons applying to become child minders and questionnaires are scrutinised by medical staff and recommendations made to the Director of Social Services.

E. County Federation of Voluntary Workers

The Federation continued its activities during the year, including responsibility for the sale of proprietary foods in 60 child health clinics in the County. Quarterly meetings were held at which members heard talks given by medical members of the health department.

F. Prematurity

The number of premature live births was 777 an increase of 54 compared with 1972. The proportion of all live births which were premature was 6.7% compared with 5.9% in the previous year.

Details of premature births according to place of delivery and birth weight are as follows:-

Weight at Birth	Born in Hospital			Born at home or in a nursing home					
				Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home.			Transferred to hospital on or before 28th day		
	Total Births	Died within 28 days	% died	Total Births	Died within 28 days	% died	Total Births	Died within 28 days	% died
2lb 3oz. or less	28	23	82	-	-	-	-	-	-
2lb 3 oz - 3lb 4 oz.	46	18	39	2	-	-	1	-	-
3lb 4 oz - 4lb 6 oz.	141	12	8	1	-	-	2	-	-
4lb 6 oz - 4lb 15 oz.	169	7	4	-	-	-	1	-	-
4lb 15 oz - 5lb 8 oz.	380	4	1	6	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	764	64	8	9	-	-	4	-	-

Care of premature infants born at home

This situation is avoided wherever possible. However, emergencies occur and equipment for the home nursing of premature infants is available at short notice to any midwife.

Special care units for premature infants now operate at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, Dryburn Hospital, Durham, and Shotley Bridge General Hospital, Consett. If in other areas, institutional care is desirable, the general practitioner arranges admission to a paediatric unit.

The above three hospitals also each maintain an incubator at a controlled temperature ready for immediate use by the County Ambulance Service in transporting premature infants to hospital. Similar provision also exists at ambulance depots in Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, South Shields and Sunderland, all of whom have expressed a willingness to cover such emergencies in the peripheral area of the County.

SECTION 23 - MIDWIFERY

(i) Staff

At the end of the year, 65 full-time and 1 part-time district midwife and 6 district nurse/midwives (who spend approximately one third of their time on midwifery duties) were employed. During the year relief work was undertaken by two midwives.

The policy of aligning staff to general practice or, where this is not possible, of giving each midwife a specific case-load, has continued and leads to increased job satisfaction. Close working relationships are established with general practitioners and the mother is assured of continuous medical and midwifery care.

The following numbers of midwives gave notice of intention to practise in the administrative county during 1973:-

District Midwives	75
District Nurse/Midwives	6
Midwives in hospitals	131
	212

(ii) Cases

Although the trend towards hospital confinement continues in line with the policy recommended in the Peel Report, much of the care is given in the community and the mother spends only a limited time in the hospital. The proportion of planned early discharges within 48 hours of confinement decreased slightly. A system of visits by midwives to check hospital ante-natal defaulters led to closer liaison with hospital staff. A minimum of two domiciliary visits were paid to each mother. In early discharge cases, the midwives assumed care of the mother and baby for at least the first 10 days.

	1971	1972	1973
Domiciliary confinements during the year *	1553 (12%)	1250 (10%)	862 (7.5%)
Total hospital confinements * ...	11688 (88%)	11018 (90%)	10665 (92.5%)
Number of hospital confinements conducted by domiciliary midwives	-	-	65
Hospital patients discharged before the tenth day	7572	8382	7961
Percentage of hospital deliveries..	65%	76%	74%
Hospital patients discharged within 48 hrs. of delivery	1923	1733	1546
Percentage of hospital deliveries ..	16%	16%	14.5%

* All confinements occurring within administrative county irrespective of mother's domicile.

The practice of Guthrie testing for phenylketonuria continues and during the year no positive results were obtained.

An experimental scheme in which domiciliary midwives attended general practitioner booked cases in the maternity unit at Bishop Auckland General Hospital commenced in March 1973. During the period March to December 1973 the number of hospital confinements conducted by domiciliary midwives was 49. A similar scheme commenced in Thorpe Maternity Hospital, Easington in September 1973 and the number of hospital confinements attended by domiciliary midwives from September to December 1973 was 16. Similar schemes are envisaged for other maternity hospitals in the administrative county.

(iii) Courses, Training and Arrangements for the Future

The administrative county staff undertake Part II midwifery training of student midwives from Bishop Auckland General Hospital and Thorpe Maternity Hospital. These students spend three months on the district as well as attending lectures and demonstrations.

Great interest is being shown in the integrated training scheme run in collaboration with Dryburn Hospital. This scheme may, in time replace parts I and II C.M.B. training. The integrated training lasts for a period of one year including holidays. Student midwives spend the first 16 weeks in hospital, followed by 12 weeks on the district and a further 19 weeks in hospital. Results show that the students work well and gain in self confidence as the course progresses and that the general practitioner alignment scheme assists greatly in giving them an insight into community nursing.

Ten teaching midwives have given students excellent practical tuition throughout the year. 14 candidates undertook the Central Midwives Board examination and all but one passed. In addition, a series of lectures by the local authority staff gave the students an outline of more specialised work.

Refresher courses were attended by 10 district midwives in accordance with C.M.B. regulations. In-service training in other disciplines were included in order to widen horizons. All domiciliary midwives have attended a family planning appreciation course.

For the future, cross-boundary arrangements with other authorities, which operate successfully in the South-West, will be extended. The policy of integrating staff at both field and headquarters levels will continue, all staff being aware of the importance of providing an effective community nursing service.

SECTION 24 - HEALTH VISITING

(i) Staff

The shortage of health visiting staff, particularly in the northern part of the County, continued to be a problem and staff are again to be commended for their efforts in providing at least skeleton cover in all areas where shortages remain. At the end of the year there were 102 full-time and 16 part-time staff in post compared with 108 full-time and 13 part-time staff last year.

All 9 student health visitors in training successfully passed their examinations and have now been allocated to areas. Seven applicants for student places were considered suitable for the 1973/74 training course.

Cross boundary arrangements for visiting continued with the Teesside area.

(ii) Work-load

The health visitor is normally engaged in most aspects of the Health Department's work, and to avoid repetition only a brief summary of the work load will be presented here:-

Health Education

Health visitors were again assisted by the staff of the health education section in the planning of programmes and demonstrations. Work continued in schools and also in weight watchers clubs which met in local authority premises and to which general practitioners referred patients. Two health visitors continued contact tracing and health education in co-operation with the venereal disease service.

Screening tests

Health visitors continued to seek out children at special risk of developing handicaps in later life, obtained information for the Observation Register, and screened children both in child health clinics and in their own homes for the early detection of hearing defects. They also maintained close liaison between parents, general practitioners and paediatricians in cases of suspected phenylketonuria and advised parents on dietary control of positive cases.

The Aged

Health visitors continued to visit the elderly, and every effort is made to maintain these people in their own homes. Staff are actively involved with both statutory and voluntary agencies to work to this end.

Tuberculosis

Advice continued to be given by health visitors to patients and their families and close liaison was maintained with chest clinics, especially in the tracing of contacts.

Immigration

Immigration remains a very minor problem in this country. All arrivals are notified to me by the medical officer at the port of entry and health visitors make early contact with the immigrants to offer assistance to them in settling in their new lives. Health visitors also explain the benefits available from the Department of Health and Social Security and advise the immigrants that any health problems - particularly in relation to symptoms of chest disease - should be referred to their general practitioner without delay. Frequently the period of supervision of an immigrant family becomes lengthy, and in consequence the health visitor becomes both friend and adviser to the family.

Maternity and Child Health

Health visitors are involved in ante-natal, post-natal and child health clinics, and work with midwives in mothercraft and relaxation classes. They were also available to discuss and assist with special problems, advise on immunisation, and care and after-care on discharge from hospital. Special attention was given to unmarried mothers and their children.

Mentally Subnormal

In co-operation with general practitioners and social workers support was given to mentally subnormal patients and their families.

Research Projects

The health visitor is a particularly valuable field research worker in that her training conditions her to view problems objectively and take an active interest in all aspects of the health service. During the year health visitors in the Barnard Castle area continued to assist in a national survey into the nutrition of certain groups of children, and health visitors in six centres have participated in a pilot study on developmental paediatrics.

(iii) Training

Health visitors have become increasingly involved in the training of hospital student nurses, student health visitors, and other post-registration groups; the aim being to produce community-orientated personnel.

Regular in-service training of staff included courses on health education, home safety, family planning, care of the mentally subnormal.

Courses organised by outside bodies and attended by county staff included fieldwork instruction, first-line management and refresher courses.

Summary of cases visited by health
visitors:-

Children born in 1973	...	...	...	...	13,667
Other children aged under 5 years	...	...	...	...	55,734
Persons aged between 5 and 16 years					
seen as part of health visiting	...	...	...	...	4,214
Persons aged between 17 and 64 years	...	...	...	...	13,655
Persons aged 65 years and over	...	...	...	...	19,330
Households visited on account					
of tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1,400
Households visited on account					
of other infectious diseases	..	...	...	...	395
Households visited for any other					
reason	...	...	...	...	4,250
				Total	112,645
Number of mentally handicapped					
included above	...	...	...	...	553
Number of mentally ill included above	...	...	...	...	450

SECTION 25 - HOME NURSING

(i) Staff

By the end of 1973, staff had increased to 138 whole-time district nursing sisters, 4 part-time district nursing sisters, 16 state enrolled nurses and 6 part-time staff who were district nurse/midwives, spending approximately two-thirds of their time on home nursing duties.

All district nursing sisters are now either aligned to general practices, or, in only a few instances where this is impracticable, given specific case loads. As in the case of midwives, the alignment has resulted in improved patient care, more skilled work, closer working relationships and increased job satisfaction.

District nursing sisters now have their local headquarters in health centres and clinics which may be regarded as the focal points of an integrated nursing service. All equipment is kept in the local headquarters and, since most is disposable, maintenance work is largely eliminated.

(ii) Cases

The total workload undertaken by district nursing sisters is detailed in Table 1. 48% of the total number of patients treated were aged 65 years and over, and of this figure 38% were treated in places other than their own homes.

District nursing sisters are not supported by a physiotherapy service and, in order to gain insight and experience in rehabilitation techniques which are of vital importance to elderly patients, sisters attend a course of lecture/demonstrations by a physiotherapist. In addition, they attend a number of in-service training courses to widen their knowledge.

(iii) Courses, Training and Future Arrangements

A total of 26 students from the nursing services were seconded to undertake nurse training. All were successful in their examinations. Practical work instruction is undertaken by local authority staff for students from hospital as well as those taking a course of district nurse training. In-service training for all staff and refresher courses, when required, are organised by headquarters' staff.

The General Nursing Council in its 1969 syllabus recommended that each nurse during training should be seconded to gain experience in community nursing. Negotiations have now been completed and students from each of five training schools in the administrative county have undertaken a period of ten weeks community nursing during 1973. Consultation has also taken place with Winterton hospital, and each psychiatric nursing student will in addition observe two weeks of community nursing during the year in accordance with General Nursing Council

recommendations. Informal exchange visits between senior nursing staff in hospitals and in the community services continued to take place during 1973. In one hospital group, it has been arranged that nurses of ward sister level will spend five days in the community, while senior community nurses undertake a five day refresher course in hospital.

Cross-boundary arrangements involving collaboration with neighbouring authorities have led to a further integration of staff with North Yorkshire, Cleveland and Gateshead.

SECTION 26 - VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Smallpox Control

Although primary smallpox vaccination at the age of 14 months was withdrawn from the County Council Schedule in August 1971, 1214 children under 16 years received primary smallpox vaccinations and a further 1412 children were re-vaccinated. A number of these vaccinations were given because of travel requirements abroad and the remainder because the parents wished their children to have this protection in early childhood.

As a result of two deaths from smallpox in the London Borough of Harrow, travellers leaving the country via London were requested to provide a valid certificate of vaccination against smallpox when reaching their destination. From 6th April to 13th May, the period when Harrow was declared to be an infected area, 9528 doses of smallpox vaccine were issued by the county health department. Facilities were made available at Middleton St. George airport for passengers travelling abroad to be vaccinated if required.

Rubella Scheme

Arrangements for vaccination against German Measles for all girls between their 11th and 14th birthdays were continued. During the year 4069 girls were protected.

Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Measles Protection Schemes

The computer based control of immunisation and vaccination continued during the year. The Central Amendment of Data scheme has again proved useful in reducing the number of records suspended through lack of information on changes of address. Before this scheme was introduced 16% of all records held on the computer were suspended because contact had been lost with the patient. By the end of 1972, this percentage had been reduced to 6% and at the end of 1973, further reduced to 3%.

Further evaluation of the computerised scheme can be shown through the number of children protected by their second birthday.

Year of Birth	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Poliomyelitis
1968	61	62	61
1969	73	74	72
1970	80	81	80
1971	81	82	81

SECTION 27 - AMBULANCE SERVICE

Present Arrangements

The service operates through a central control at Framwellgate Moor, Durham and 17 ambulance depots. At the end of the year the operational staff in post numbered 356 and the fleet comprised 145 vehicles, details being as shown below. Where the authorised establishment figure varies from the number in post, it is indicated in brackets alongside.

(a) Headquarters and Central Control Staff

Ambulance Officer	8 Assistant Controllers (Operations) (9)
1 Deputy Ambulance Officer	1 Assistant Controller (Planning)
1 Assistant Ambulance Officer (Control and Communications)	13 Control Clerks (14)
3 Controllers (Operations)	1 Switchboard Operator
1 Controller (Planning)	

(b) Depots.	Driving Staff.	Vehicles		Driving Staff.	Vehicles
Barnard Castle	4	2	New Herrington ...	25	8
Bishop Auckland	27(30)	10	Newton Aycliffe ..	14(16)	5
Chester-le-Street. ...	17(18)	7	Seaham	16(17)	6
Consett	15(17)	6	Stanley	19	7
Crook	16(17)	5	St. John's Chapel .	2(4)	2
Durham	33(36)	14	Washington	15(18)	6
Fishburn	18(21)	7	Wheatley Hill ...	34	10
Hebburn	24(31)	11	Winlaton	24(25)	9
Middleton-in-Teesdale .	2	1	Headquarters Pool.	-	29

(c) Other Staff

18 superintendents, 3 mechanics.

To ensure that peripheral parts of the county are covered for emergency purposes the County Council has arrangements with the County Boroughs of Teesside, Darlington, Hartlepool and South Shields, whereby the Borough ambulance services undertake journeys for the County Council. Teesside County Borough does not make a charge for this service, but the remaining County Boroughs make a mileage based charge. Darlington also charges a minimum call-out fee.

Work undertaken in 1973 compared with 1972.

Year	No. of journeys made	No. of patients carried			Total mileage covered
		Stretcher cases	Sitting cases	Total	
1972	91,578	57,047	361,923	418,970	2,792,807
1973	85,602	54,353	317,723	372,076	2,518,423
Decrease	5,976	2,694	44,200	46,894	274,384

Long distance journeys. The following is a statement of long distance journeys undertaken during the year:-

Cumberland	28	Lancashire	2
		Yorkshire	7

Totals: Journeys 37

Mileage 6,389

In addition to the long distance journeys undertaken by ambulances, arrangements were made for 74 patients to be transported by rail. Trends and detailed statistics from 1964 are shown in Table 8, Part III.

Vehicles.

The following is an analysis of the ambulance fleet at the end of the year.

Year of Manufacture	Type of Ambulance		
	Conventional	Dual Purpose	Multipurpose
1966	-	6	-
1967	-	17	-
1968	1	14	-
1969	-	16	-
1970	4	5	-
1971	14	-	-
1972	8	2	2
1973	34	22	-
Total	61	82	2

All conventional and dual purpose ambulances in the fleet were constructed by the same manufacturer.

Vehicles are replaced in accordance with a six year cycle, and at present there are 13 ambulances on order, all dual purpose vehicles.

Repair and Maintenance of Vehicles

Weekly safety checks and 3,000 mile checks are undertaken at the depots by the four peripatetic mechanics employed for that purpose. 6,000 mile checks and major repairs are undertaken at the County Surveyor's Central Repair Depot.

Equipment for Ambulances

Resuscitation and suction equipment, a portable analgesic machine (Entonox), sets of inflatable and spinal splints, trolleys and scoop stretchers are included as part of conventional ambulances' equipment.

Many of these features were added to the service in response to Ambulance Service Advisory Committee guidance commended to local health authorities by the Department of Health and Social Security in circulars L.H.A.L.2/71, 12/71, 21/71 and 50/71.

Productivity Bonus Scheme

In November 1973 the depot operational staff instituted a strike due to the fact that it had not been possible to introduce a productivity bonus scheme. This industrial action lasted for four days after which the staff returned to duty but refused to convey other than emergency patients. Further consideration was given to the institution of a productivity bonus scheme and at the end of the year such a scheme was evolved by the Management Services Unit which was to be considered by the depot staff.

Training

Places for Durham County ambulancemen are available for six weeks' basic training courses at the West Riding of Yorkshire Training School, Cleckheaton, and the North East Training Centre, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

During 1973, 21 students were seconded to the West Riding Training School and 15 to the North East Training Centre. Of the 36 students attending these courses, 33 were successful in passing the course examination, 2 failed the examination (one of whom was recommended for further training), and 1 failed to complete the course because of his wife's illness. In addition, a further 5 men with over 5 years' service and who had received no previous training, attended the North East Training Centre courses.

Refresher courses were continued during the year at the North East Training Centre for men who had received previous instruction in 1970, 30 men attended these courses. Owing to the shortage of depot staff, however, and the difficulty in recruitment (which also made it impossible for some depots to man all the necessary vehicles), it was necessary to suspend such training during the year.

Students were also seconded to an instructor's course at Wrenbury Hall, Cheshire. Induction courses for new entrants were continued at Ambulance Headquarters throughout the year, but in-service training was restricted on account of the factors given in the preceding paragraph.

Durham County ambulancemen continued to participate in the Ro.S.P.A. safe driving scheme.

Communications

(a) Telephones - Ambulance Headquarters is equipped with a PABX 1 switchboard with nine exchange lines, one direct line to Dryburn Hospital, Durham, and one out-of-area line to Bishop Auckland. There are also direct lines from Police and Fire Brigade Headquarters independent of the switchboard.

Within the Central Control complex, there are two sets of key and lamp units, six units in the operations' room and five in the planning room. In addition, there is a unit in the planning room for the switchboard operator to monitor the traffic in the operations' room. Each unit has six extensions, the operations' room series being different from the planning room series. The operations' room units have two exchange lines in addition to the 999 line. The effect of this is that outgoing calls can be made without using the lines on the PABX board, thus preventing the board becoming overloaded and possibly being blocked in an emergency.

(b) VHF radio - the system, which operates through four sites and covers the geographical county and North Yorkshire, uses data transmission in addition to vocal communication. Two digital time-recorders give a print-out of all transmissions to and from mobiles.

(c) Telex - three standard Telex machines operate in central control, and each depot has one such machine.

SECTION 28 - PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

Health Education

The area of activity increased considerably during the year. The major role of the section, that of consultation in health education matters and in supporting field staff, was consolidated, while a number of new developments were undertaken.

Staffing

A sharp increase in activity required a further increase in staff. The secondment of an assistant health education officer to the Diploma in Health Education Course at Leeds University for one academic year was balanced by the appointment of an additional health education officer.

In November, the staffing of the section was completed with the appointment of a technical assistant.

Organisation of Work

The activity within the section was again organised to allow support to five specific areas of the health education activity. This ensures controlled development, while allowing the service to be tailored to meet the needs of each specific area:-

(1) Education establishments - There was a sharp increase in the requests for help and support from a wide range of education establishments. Use was made of the advisory and supportive services. Many schools now include health education programmes in their curriculum and liaise with the section for the provision of materials, speakers and course tutors. The majority of education establishments participated and actively supported a number of health education campaigns, notably the "Return of Medicines" campaign held in Chester-le-Street in July. The section was host to several hundred schoolchildren undertaking project work. In October, the Director of Education agreed to a future survey on the smoking habits and attitudes of 1,000 schoolchildren in Newton Aycliffe.

(2) Industry and Hospitals - The co-operation with industrial establishments and hospitals was further consolidated and a further 20 industrial establishments were visited. Nursing and industrial staff participated in the various health education in-service training courses and many visited the section throughout the year. A number of hospitals and factories accepted displays on health education topics such as Venereal Diseases, Hazards of Cigarette Smoking, Planned Parenthood and Return of Medicines.

(3) Clinics and Field Staff - An extensive in-service training programme was undertaken. The instruction on the use of visual aids to all nursing staff continued and the value of the service was reflected in the increased number of aids used and in the participation by staff in the community and school lecturing situation. 20 clinics received a health education display on one month's loan.

(4) Community Groups - This area of activity continued to expand, and during the year over 500 health education talks were undertaken by section and nursing staff. A feature now developing is the request for community group programmes of talks, rather than isolated talks, and several organisations now have extensive health education programmes. The co-operation and involvement of Health Department staff, especially health visitors, is a major factor in this area of development.

(5) Communications - The section continued to increase the stocks of visual aids during the year. The visual aids service was used by several hundred agencies and the organisation and delivery of aids takes up a considerable part of the section's activities. Several new sets of slides and three resource packs were produced. The demand for posters and leaflets, especially during campaign work, resulted in 180,000 items being circulated to the general public. The venereal diseases information service continues to attract a high rate of callers and has now been in operation 21 months, during which time 74,000 calls have been received.

Exhibitions and Displays - Four topics were highlighted through the medium of the exhibition units, and these were used extensively in schools, industry, clinics, general practitioner surgeries and libraries. Four town/agricultural shows accommodated health education displays:-

Winlaton	...	...	...	Water Safety.
Consett	...	...	...	Family Planning.
Seaham	...	...	...	Family Planning and Venereal Diseases.
Wolsingham	.	...	...	Water Safety.

Further displays were mounted in County Hall.

In-Service Training and Conferences - This important aspect of the section's work was further developed during the year and the sources undertaken were very successful. The courses were attended by nurses, teachers, doctors, dentists, voluntary workers, etc.:-

23rd May - 24th May	...	...	Home Safety
27th June	...	...	Dental Health Conference
5th October - 10th October	.	...	Communications
17th October - 19th December	...		Horizons of Health Education

In September, the Health Education Content and Methods Course commenced at Durham Technical College. The course is a one-year day release advanced course of study and is staffed partly by members of Durham Technical College and the Health Education Section. 18 nursing staff attend the course, including six seconded by the Durham County Health Department.

Campaigns - During the year, five campaigns were held:-

- Hazards of Cigarette Smoking
- Venereal Diseases
- Return of Medicines
- Nutrition
- Dental Health

A campaign in depth involving the return and disposal of unused medicines and tablets was held during July. Extensive publicity was undertaken and co-operation was sought and received from hospitals, general practitioners, head teachers, chemists, social services personnel, police, mass media, industry and local commerce. The public were asked to dispose of or return all unwanted medicines, and to this end many thousands of posters, leaflets, paper bags and stickers were distributed. Much of this was undertaken by local schools and a special competition resulted in a display of work in the local library.

Tyne Tees Television produced a 15 minute programme on the campaign. 13 lbs. of drugs were returned, and evidence suggests that the public absorbed the message and had disposed of their unwanted medicines in other ways.

The pre-recorded message giving information on the cause and physiology of venereal disease and details of treatment centres continued to be available in response to dialling the telephone number Durham 66619. The unit is sited within the County Hall and provides a 24 hour private and confidential service. 35,818 calls were received during the year.

Chiropody

The County Council free service to aged people has continued but the expansion of this service is limited by shortage of staff. Two mobile chiropody clinics are available and continue to make a valuable contribution to work output, but their full potential cannot be realised until the staffing situation improves.

During the year, the number of clinics run by voluntary organisations was 25, and the organisations received £9,995.14 in grant aid, compared with £8,786.39 in 1972.

Compared with 72,963 treatments provided in 1972, the number in 1973 decreased to 66,294. An analysis of the work done is as follows:-

	Direct Services.	Voluntary Organisations	Easington R.D.	Total
Treatment centres	97	25	8	130
Persons treated:-				
Aged persons	11,939	4,659	918	17,516
Handicapped	63	23	-	86
Treatments:-				
Aged persons	41,384	15,346	2,518	59,248
Handicapped	225	80	-	305
Staff in post at 31st December:-				
Chief Chiropodist	1	-	-	1
Chiropodists (whole-time)	8	-	1	9
Chiropodists (part-time)	11	7	-	18

In addition, 1,565 residents in hostels for the elderly were given 6,741 treatments.

Provision of Incontinence Pads.

The demand for disposable incontinence pads increased during the year and the number of pads issued was 338,400 compared with 333,428 in 1972.

These were issued as nursing aids to the incontinent elderly and physically handicapped and also to a proportion of the younger age group with a mental handicap.

SECTION C - INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table 6 Part III gives particulars of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, and I would refer particularly to the following:-

Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis and Whooping Cough

For the fifteenth successive year there have been no confirmed cases of diphtheria and for the sixth successive year there have been no confirmed cases of acute poliomyelitis. Whooping Cough notifications have increased from 24 in 1972 to 109 during 1973. Protection rates against these diseases are improving and sustained efforts are made to encourage parents to take advantage of the immunisation and vaccination scheme. The present situation continues to reflect favourably on the response.

Measles

Over 57% of all infectious diseases notified in 1973 (955 of 1655) were due to measles, the notification rate being 1 per 1,000 population, a decrease on last year's figure a similar rate to 1971. Figures below give details of notification rates for the past ten years.

Year	Notification Rate per 1,000 population
1964	6
1965	11
1966	8
1967	9
1968	8
1969	2
1970	8
1971	1
1972	5
1973	1

Dysentery and Food Poisoning

54 cases of dysentery occurred during the year and 64 cases of food poisoning.

SECTION D - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND DRUGS

1. Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963.

At the end of the year there were two plants processing milk in the administrative county, both of which were authorised to use the special designation "Pasteurised". Both plants are of modern design. The total quantity of milk treated is approximately 40,989 gallons per day. Regular inspection of these dairies are made and satisfactory standards maintained.

Both dairies have washing, filling and capping lines with automatic decrating, recrating and stacking. These lines operate at rates of up to 280 bottles per minute, and while satisfactory such a rate is indicative of the practical difficulty of "spotting" unsatisfactory bottles which have been returned to the dairy in such a condition as to be incapable of being satisfactorily cleansed by the washer.

Misuse of bottles continues, and the numbers of complaints of unsatisfactory bottles being delivered to consumers is generally the same as in previous years. Daily, the dairies licensed by this council wash and fill some 324,000 bottles. With modern washing and filling equipment, these numbers present no difficulty, provided that empty bottles have been rinsed immediately after use, returned promptly and not used for any other purpose than as milk containers.

Although the county is a specified area in which only milk of a special designation can be sold, exception is made as a last resort. Where no such supplies are available the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries issues a "Consent Licence" enabling a retailer to dispense with the requirements of the Order. During the year five such consents were in operation. The amount of milk covered by these consents is very small and only serves the needs of people living in isolated houses.

Routine samples continue to be taken by the County Health Department staff of milk delivered to schools and childrens homes. Nine samples failed the methylene blue reduction test (keeping quality). On investigating the reason for the failures it was considered that a contributory factor was the arrangements for delivery and storage at the schools and appropriate recommendations were made. One complaint has been received concerning the condition of a bottle of milk delivered to a school and appropriate action was taken.

At the request of the four Hospital Management Committees, routine samples are taken of the milk delivered to hospitals in their group.

Under the above Regulations the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority has the duty of licensing and supervising all dealers in milk, the number licensed being as follows:-

No. of current licences at 1.1.73.	(i) 'B' Licences	5
	(ii) 'E' Licences	1,789
No. issued during the year	(i) 'B' Licences	1
	(ii) 'E' Licences	249
No. cancelled during the year	(i) 'B' Licences	Nil
	(ii) 'E' Licences	152
No. of current licences at the end of the year		1,886

Details of the results of all examinations of samples are given in Part III.

To ensure that the arrangements for handling and storing milk are maintained at satisfactory level, some 590 inspections of premises have been made. These have resulted in the provision of 30 new and improved premises, and a further 23 cold storage units have been installed. A total of 156 cold storage units are now in operation.

The policy of relating routine sampling to the quantity and designation of milk sold by the various dealers has continued to avoid as far as possible duplication but at the same time to spread the work over the areas of the various county districts. Each local authority is furnished with a monthly report of all samples taken within its area. 3,703 samples have been taken.

The four samples that failed the phosphatase test were isolated cases and with one exception the subsequent investigation gave no indication of the cause of the failure. In one case a faulty flow diversion valve on the pasteurising unit was the cause and the fault was immediately rectified. Where a sample failed the methylene blue test, an investigation was made and appropriate advice given and a repeat sample taken. If a repeat sample of untreated milk from a producer/retailer failed the test the Divisional Milk Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was also informed. At the end of the year there were 85 producer/retailers in the County.

Sampling of untreated milk for antibiotics has continued in keeping with the previous procedure of concentrating on untreated milk on retail sale. 624 samples of untreated milk have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for antibiotic examination. Six of which contained antibiotics in excess of the accepted figure. Appropriate action was taken in each case.

2. Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Section 31

Samples of untreated milk are being obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli, and brucella abortus which can cause contagious abortion among cattle and undulant fever in man. The results of the 117 samples have been received and are shown in Part III. There were no positive results.

Brucellosis

The Brucellosis Incentive Scheme continues with more herds being registered and supervised.

The Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures reported that two samples of milk from two suppliers were found to be either deficient in milk fat or showed evidence of added water. It was decided that because of the genuine mitigating circumstances prosecutions were unnecessary.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

The following statement shows the results of examinations carried out by the County Analyst during the year:-

	No. of samples	No. Adulterated	% Adulterated
Milk	821	6	0.7
Other foods and drugs	2,876	213	7.4
	3,697	219	5.9
Appeal-to-Cow samples			Nil
Milk below presumptive standard but genuine			50

SECTION E - ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

1. (a) Bacteriological Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratories situated at the General Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Havelock Hospital, Sunderland, General Hospital, Middlesbrough and the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton undertake examinations for the administrative county area.

(b) Water Supplies

Piped water is supplied to the various parts of the administrative county area by the following water undertakers:-

Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board

Durham County Water Board

Sunderland and South Shields Water Company

Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company

Hartlepool Water Company

Only small rural areas rely on wells or springs.

Normal extensions of mains to housing estates and industry continue in all areas while work also proceeds on improving service reservoirs, treatment plants etc. The increased demand for water both for domestic and industrial use in the area continues, and further reservoir sites to augment supplies in the north east generally are under consideration.

Copies of results of analysis of water supplies taken by local authorities are sent to the County Health Department and where necessary further investigations are carried out. Of 397 samples taken, 54 were classed as unsatisfactory. These unsatisfactory samples were generally from individual spring or well supplies to isolated farms or dwellings and in a number of instances repeat samples of those reported in previous years. Routine samples of supplies to schools, kitchens, dairies and similar establishments continue to be taken by officers of the department and have proved generally satisfactory. Where adverse reports were received they came from local supplies subject to variation in quality and quantity due to extreme weather changes.

As mentioned in my last report samples additional to those taken as a routine measure for bacteriological examination have been taken for chemical examination from supplies with a tendency to plumbo solvent action, which do not pass through the treatment units of the major water undertakers, where appropriate action is taken to prevent plumbo-solvency. The results of the examination indicate no harmful effects from these supplies, but they merit further attention.

Schemes providing new or improved water supplies to certain areas have been submitted for consideration. Investigations have been carried out in each case and appropriate recommendations made.

Fluoridation of Water Supplies

The population living in the Hartlepool area have been drinking water containing a fairly high natural concentration of fluoride for a great number of years and the benefits of fluoride are now being extended to other parts of the County.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company are continuing to add fluoride to water supplies treated by purification plants at Whitley Dene and Throckley. The dose is one part of fluoride per million parts of water and the chemical used is sodium silico fluoride. The area of the administrative county being supplied with water includes Ryton Urban District and parts of Blaydon, Felling and Whickham Urban Districts and Chester-le-Street Rural District.

The Durham County Water Board continue to add fluoride to water supplies treated by the purification plant at Honey Hill. Again the dose is one part of fluoride per million parts of water but in this instance the chemical being used is fluorosilicic acid. The area of the administrative county supplied includes Consett, Stanley and Chester-le-Street Urban Districts, parts of Blaydon and Whickham Urban Districts and parts of Chester-le-Street and Lanchester Rural Districts. Monthly samples are taken for examination from both supplies and are generally satisfactory.

2. (a) Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944-61

During the year the County Council continued to make grants towards the cost of approved schemes for the provision of piped water supplies and main drainage in the rural areas of the county. The following scheme was considered:-

	Estimated Cost
Barnard Castle Springs Scheme (Water Supply)	£39,000

In connection with Section 2(1) of the above Acts, a number of schemes were under consideration.

(b) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Routine inspections of existing disposal works and those under construction continue to be made. A number of schemes to replace overloaded and defective works and to enable the continued development of housing and industrial estates have been submitted by local authorities for consideration. Investigations have been carried out in each case and appropriate recommendations made.

County Council properties - As requested by the County Architect and County Surveyor routine inspections of sewage disposal works sampling of effluents and submission of appropriate recommendations of properties not on main drainage have continued.

(c) Local Government Act 1958

A number of applications for grant aid under Section 56 have been received from local authorities in respect of sewerage and sewage disposal schemes and the following schemes have been considered.

Denton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme	£12,701
West Rainton Sewage Treatment Works Scheme	£19,100
Houghton U.D. Chester R.D. and Hetton U.D.	
Main Drainage and Sewage Disposal Scheme (amended)	£272,000
Witton Gilbert Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme	£197,500

SECTION F - GENERAL

1. Nursing Homes

During the year no applications were made to the County Council for the delegation of their powers to district councils under Section 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The following nursing homes are currently registered by the County Council:-

Location	Description
Eighton Lodge, Birtley	Home for unmarried girls maintained by Durham Diocesan Family Welfare Council.
'Milford', North End, Durham	Private nursing home for aged and infirm persons.
Rockcliffe Park, Hurworth-on-Tees ..	Chronic sick males.

2. Research and Statistics Section

On-going systems have been maintained. A pilot scheme on Developmental Paediatrics has been undertaken at six child health clinics throughout the county when mothers are offered appointments for their children to be assessed at the ages of 6 weeks, 6 months, 1,2,3 and 4 years by specially trained doctors. As well as offering a new service to the children of County Durham, the pilot scheme has given the section an opportunity to evaluate the response to an appointment system which is not in general use in the county on the public health side. Initial impressions are that this new service has been well received and that an increasingly sophisticated paediatric service would be welcomed in the future.

Close liaison has developed between the section and the Regional Computer staff who, it is anticipated, will undertake all health service computer applications within the next 2-3 years. Children born in Darlington C.B. and in Startforth R.D. from January 1st, 1974 have been registered on the Durham County Council computer so that all Durham Area Health Authority should have the same service from April, 1974. The present Durham computer applications are running smoothly and it is important to avert any deterioration in the service during the transition period in 1975/76. It is anticipated that the final Regional Scheme will be very useful.

PART II

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

GENERAL STATISTICS

The numbers given throughout the report relate to the administrative county area excluding the excepted district of Easington. Statistics relating to Easington appear in Dr. Rodgers' report.

Schools and School Children

Type of School						No.	No. on rolls January, 1974	
Nursery class part-time	...	...	...	...	...	-	313	
Nursery	...	...	...	...	...	19	429	(Full-time)
							835	(Part-time)
Primary	...	...	...	...	...	436	84,475	(Full-time)
							-	(Part-time)
Secondary	...	...	...	...	...	94	58,660	(Full-time)
							1	(Part-time)
Special Schools:								
Day schools for educationally sub-normal	...	...	...	...	...	15	1,153	
Residential schools for educationally sub-normal	...	...	...	...	...	3		
Residential schools for delicate pupils	...	...	...	...	...	1		
Residential schools for maladjusted boys	...	...	...	...	...	1		
Residential hospital schools	...	...	...	...	...	2	255	
Total						571	146,121	

(There is also a residential hostel for 15 maladjusted boys).

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

The number of pupils attending the County special schools in January, 1973, was as follows:-

- (a) For educationally sub-normal children (including former junior training centres):-

Dinsdale Park Residential School	...	...	72
Elemore Hall Residential School	...	...	71
Walworth Castle Residential School	...	...	32
Bishop Auckland Day School	..	...	149
Dunholme Day School	...	...	106
Durham South View Day School	...	...	56
Hare Law Day School	...	...	100
Felling Day School	...	...	121
Houghton-le-Spring (Glebe) Day School	...	...	117
Houghton-le-Spring (Copt Hill) Day School	...	...	54
Jarrow Epinay Day School	...	...	87
Spennymoor Day School	...	...	86
Ferryhill Rosebank Day School	...	...	52

Chester-le-Street West Lane Day School	...	50
Hebburn Auckland Road Day School	...	48
Bishop Auckland Murphy Crescent Day School		45
Consett Villa Real Day School	...	42
Bleach Green Day School	...	50
(b) For delicate children:-		
Windlestone Hall Residential School	...	73
(c) For maladjusted children:-		
Redworth Hall Residential School	...	47
(d) Hospital schools:-		
Earls House	...	78
Aycliffe	...	71
Total		<u>1,607</u>

SCHOOL HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Seven new primary schools were opened during 1973.

Alterations to existing schools to bring them into line with the Standards for School Premises Regulations were continued during the year. During the year, one school was provided with indoor sanitation.

Although satisfactory accommodation is provided in most new schools for the inspection of pupils by doctors, dentists and nurses, it is lacking in some of the older schools. Use of the purpose-built mobile inspection unit continues to be necessary in some of those schools where proper facilities are not available.

The policy of providing all schools with paper towels has been completed.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Routine medical inspections are restricted to pupils in the categories of school entrants, 10-plus age group and school leavers, but at all nursery schools and special schools, children are examined annually.

A comparison of the number of inspections carried out in each of the last five years is as follows:-

Year					Routine Medical Inspection	Special Inspections and Re-inspections
1969	...	...	...	...	35,631	13,386
1970	...	...	...	...	38,280	16,152
1971	...	...	...	...	36,792	17,776
1972	...	...	...	...	29,749	23,619
1973	...	...	...	...	30,007	15,540

Full details of medical inspections and treatments are given in Part III.

Physical Condition

The figures given below are derived from the individual assessments of all the school medical officers and are therefore not uniform. Nevertheless it is pleasing to record that the percentage found "unsatisfactory" remains below 1%.

Classification of Pupils Inspected at Periodic Medical Inspections, 1969-1973.

Year	Unsatisfactory	
	Number	Percentage
1969	162	0.41
1970	124	0.32
1971	130	0.35
1972	119	0.40
1973	128	0.45

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION OF CHILDREN AT SCHOOL

(a) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

A primary course of protection against poliomyelitis is offered to all children in infancy, for the primary course doses are given at age 4 months, 6 months and one year, followed by a booster dose when a child reaches 4 years. A further offer is made to the parents of children who have not been protected before commencing school to be given the vaccine at school. 1,026 primary courses were given and 2,054 reinforcing doses. Health visitors administer this vaccine under the supervision of medical staff.

(b) Immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus

The figures for 1973 were:-

			Diphtheria/Tetanus	Diphtheria	Tetanus
Primary courses	...	...	912	3	-
Boosters	...	...	1,930	26	-

(c) B.C.G. Vaccination

Tuberculin testing and vaccination of school children aged 11 years and over was carried out throughout the county by health visitors and medical officers. Of the 13,530 children skin tested, 1,113 were found to have positive reactions, a percentage of 8.2% 11,707 children were vaccinated equal to a percentage of 86.5%.

(d) Measles Vaccination

A number of children not vaccinated in infancy and not having been infected at the time of entry into school were offered measles vaccination. During the year 71 children were vaccinated against measles at schools in two areas of the county. Records for children born after 1st January 1967 are held in the computer and where parents consent for their children to receive this vaccine it is given at 13 months of age.

(e) Rubella Vaccination

The scheme for the vaccination against German Measles of girls between their 11th and 14th birthdays was continued during the year, 3,815 girls were vaccinated at the secondary schools in the county. This measure is taken to protect girls in later life from developing German Measles - important in view of the known relationship between congenital abnormalities in children born to mothers infected in the first three months of pregnancy.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The provision of special educational treatment for handicapped pupils continues to be one of the main priorities in the County's scheme.

A regional assessment centre (child development) was opened in the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle, in 1971 and an assessment centre at Dryburn Hospital, Durham was opened in May, 1972.

The following figures show the distribution of handicapped children in the various categories (more detail is given in Part III).

Blind	...	...	...	...	14
Partially Sighted	...	...	...	...	15
Deaf	...	...	...	...	46
Partially hearing	...	...	...	...	112
Physically handicapped	...	...	...	...	174
Delicate	...	...	...	...	61
Epileptic	...	...	...	...	18
Educationally sub-normal	...	...	...	...	1,421
Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	146
Speech Defective	...	...	...	...	-

(a) Blind and Partially Sighted

Blind Pupils:-

At the end of the year there were 14 pupils in special schools.

Partially Sighted:-

Whenever possible, a partially sighted child is educated in an ordinary school but special schooling is sometimes necessary.

One pupil was recommended for entry to a special school for the partially sighted. At the end of the year there were 15 children in special schools.

(b) Deaf and Partially Hearing

Deaf Pupils:-

Reference is made later in this report to the ascertainment and assessment procedures used in dealing with this form of handicap.

Five children were examined and recommended for education special schools for deaf children. At the end of the year there were 46 children in special schools, and one child awaiting admission.

Partially Hearing Pupils:-

Of the 27 pupils examined 15 were recommended for admission to units for partially hearing children, and 12 were considered suitable for education in ordinary schools. At the end of the year there were three children in special schools for partially hearing children and 95 in units for partially hearing children.

There are now three nursery units operating at schools within the County. In addition to teaching staff, each of these nursery units has an N.N.E.B. trained nursery assistant.

The Durham and Fatfield units remain over subscribed and, in an effort to reduce the pressure on these units, a report has been submitted by the County Organiser for the Deaf requesting the inclusion in the building programme of a new unit at Stanley, with further provision for a unit to be built later in the Peterlee area.

(c) Physically Handicapped Pupils

The number of children with physical handicaps examined for the first time during the year was 126 while 332 were re-examined. Of these, 285 were found to be able to cope with the conditions of the ordinary school, 16 were recommended for admission to special schools, and 155 for tuition at home.

At the end of the year there were 5 children awaiting places in special schools, 104 physically handicapped children were attending special schools and 65 were receiving tuition either at home or in hospital.

(d) Delicate Pupils

Within this category 58 children were examined or re-examined during the year and 37 were found capable of attending ordinary schools. Twelve were recommended for special schools, and nine for home tuition and review at a later date.

At the end of the year 53 delicate children were attending special schools and seven were receiving tuition at home or in hospital. One child was awaiting placement in a special school.

(e) Epileptic Children

Nine children were found, upon examination, to be suffering from epilepsy, three of whom were considered suitable for education in ordinary schools; four were recommended for special school, and two for home tuition.

There are twelve epileptic children in special schools outside the county and four epileptic children are receiving education at home.

(f) Educationally Subnormal Children

During the year 161 children referred for this purpose, were examined, and details of the recommendations appear in Part III.

(g) Maladjusted Children

Of 331 new cases seen by psychiatrists during the year, 12 were seen at the request of Juvenile Courts. At the end of the year there were 90 children in special schools, and 13 in the County Council's residential hostel. 29 children were awaiting vacancies in special schools, and eight were receiving education otherwise than at school.

(h) Speech Defective Pupils

1,211 children were treated in the authority's clinics and special schools.

Diabetic and Epileptic Holiday Camps

Arrangements were made for children to attend holiday camps under the auspices of the British Epilepsy Association as follows:-

The British Epilepsy Association:-

City of Coventry's Boarding School,					
Cleobury Mortimer	...	...	...	...	2
Happy Wanderers Camp, Surrey	...	...	...	...	3

MISCELLANEOUS MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Medical examinations other than periodic examinations in schools were undertaken as in previous years. Details are given below. (Figures in brackets refer to 1972).

(a) Examinations under Section 18 of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933.

These examinations are of children between the ages of 14 and 16 and are required to determine the fitness of children to receive employment licences and badges. Part-time employment is usually that of newsboy, errand boy or shop assistant.

No. of children examined	...	...	...	...	491	(104)
No. of children unfit to be employed	...	...	...	...	3	(1)

(b) Examination under Section 22 of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933.

These examinations of children desiring to take part in entertainments.

No. of children examined	...	...	...	...	11	(2)
No. of children unfit	...	...	...	...	none	(none)

(c) Juvenile Courts

No. of children or young persons examined arising out of proceedings in Juvenile Courts	...	...	...	...	2	(3)
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	-----

(d) Candidates for Royal Air Force

Apprentices or boy entrants	...	...	...	...	none	(none)
-----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	--------

(e) Candidates for admission to courses of

teaching and to the teaching profession	...	...	...	...	1,068	(1,628)
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------	---------

(f) Superannuation cases	...	...	...	...	521	(715)
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

AUDIOMETRIC TESTING OF CHILDREN WITH HEARING DEFECTS

Over 14 years ago the County Council introduced the audiometric service which has been continually developed and improved.

The advantage of such a service is that very early detection of hearing defects in children is achieved by offering screening to all first year infants and sweep tests of all those in their first year at infants and again in junior schools.

All children failing the screening test are offered appointments for further investigation and help at the Audiology Clinics although it is to be regretted that some 26% fail to take advantage of this service.

The inordinately high incidence of failure rate in the North and North East of the county in 1972 has proved to be of a temporary nature only and has not been repeated in 1973.

The year's work is summarised in the following tables:-

Results of Screening in Schools

Infants					Boys	Girls	Total
Tested	...	...	...	...	6,616	6,667	13,283
Failed	...	...	...	...	806	766	1,572
% Incidence	...	...	...	...	12.19	11.49	11.8

Juniors

Tested	...	...	...	...	7,204	6,532	13,736
Failed	...	...	...	...	413	370	783
% Incidence	...	...	...	...	5.72	5.66	5.69

School Health Service Audiology Clinics

Number of Appointments	Did not Attend	No further Action	Further Observation	Referred to Consultants
12,150	3,243 (26.70%)	2,568 (21.12%)	5,940 (48.89%)	399 (3.29%)

Multi-Disciplinary Otology Clinic attended by Consultant

Appointments	Did not Attend	Referred to Hospital	For Review	No further Action
216	27	101	70	18

19 hearing aids supplied.

CHILD GUIDANCE SERVICE

Owing to the reorganisation of the Health Service, this will be the last report from the Child Guidance Clinic as a unit of the County Council Health Service, but it is not envisaged that there will be any change in the functions of the clinic or the service offered to children who need help. It is hoped in fact that this reorganisation will eventually lead to further developments at the clinic as future needs demand. The unit will, of course, continue to offer a counselling service to the various residential educational establishments in the County, and also those of Social Services as required.

Figures for attendances at the Bishop Auckland, Durham and Jarrow clinics over the last three years are as follows (the numbers for the Durham and Bishop Auckland clinics are combined):-

	1971	1972	1973
Psychiatrists: New cases			
Durham	250	250	253
Jarrow	45	89	78

These figures include cases seen at Durham and at Jarrow at the request of the juvenile courts.

Follow-up sessions	1971	1972	1973
Durham	996	927	825
Jarrow	216	163	141

Social Workers:	1971	1972	1973
Initial interview at home	18	19	93
Initial interview at clinic	208	220	249
Follow-up interviews at home	245	382	443
Follow-up interviews at clinic	756	901	1,073

SPEECH THERAPY

Many changes of staff have occurred during the year and unfortunately the acute shortage of therapists has continued. At the end of the year, the number of therapists in post was six full time and four part time, all but one of whom work during term time only, the equivalent of 2.7 therapists. All but two of the staff are married and the dependence on therapists working during term time only has increased. In Scotland this is now normal practise, and is recommended in the salary grading in the Quirk report on Speech Therapy. Regrettably, by the end of the year, we had no therapists in either the densely populated north west or north east areas of the county-areas which will be transferred to the metropolitan area health authorities on 1st April 1974.

During the year, children have received treatment in both the new health centres and existing clinics. The authority's special schools for educationally sub-normal children have had regular visits by a therapist and it has proved possible to institute these in Dene View School, Horden after a long gap. It has also been possible to visit on a weekly basis Auckland Road School; Hebburn, West Lane School, Chester-le-Street, and Dunholme School, Durham which undertake the care of severely sub-normal children. Therapy has also been given to patients in both Dryburn and Earls House Hospital. The close co-operation of the staff in the schools and hospitals has been greatly appreciated and enhancing the value of therapy to children.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to see children following referral as early as might be wished and waiting lists now comprise 427 children.

During the year, the chief speech therapist has lectured to student nurses and midwives. The use of video tape recordings made by her has assisted these lectures and will be used by student teachers and other professions to enlarge their knowledge of speech therapy.

DENTAL SERVICE

Staffing

The staffing situation still proves difficult but during 1973 a full time equivalent of 6.7 dental officers was recruited, comprising five full-time and three part-time dental officers. During the course of the year, two full-time dental officers and two part-time dental officers terminated their employment. At the end of 1973, the full-time equivalent in post was 19 as compared with 16.4 at the end of 1972.

Work Load

During 1973, staff shortages again prevented the inspection of all schools and treatment of pupils was limited to those attending all primary schools plus a percentage of those at secondary schools. The three year old birthday card scheme, which has been in operation for seventeen months, has doubled the number of pre-school children who were treated. Owing to the increasing demand for general anaesthetics, the Principal School Dental Officer has had to undertake many sessions to alleviate the situation.

Courses

As in 1972, the full-time course for dental surgery assistants at Durham Technical College received a good response. The Principal School Dental Officer again attended the college as a member of the Science Advisory Committee.

During the year, the Principal School Dental Officer attended the annual conference of the British Dental Association at Southport, two meetings of the Chief Dental Officers Co-ordinating Committee, a course run by the Society of Community Medicine on Fluoridation and a course on Dental Health Education organised by the British Dental Association. One senior school dental officer was selected to carry out a survey of child dental health in England and Wales while the Principal School Dental Officer and two senior school dental officers attended the National Health Reorganisation Course held in Manchester.

Dental Health

Mr. McKechnie, chief dental officer for Renfrewshire, and a member of the representative board of the British Dental Association, visited the County Hall to speak at a seminar held on Dental Health. Mr. Naylor, senior school dental officer gave talks to several schools on dental health as also did a dental auxiliary.

General

The Principal School Dental Officer attended meetings in connection with National Health Reorganisation (Dental Working Party of the Joint Liaison Committee). She again attended the local dental committee meetings and the examining board for dental surgery assistants. Once again, close liaison was maintained with Newcastle General Hospital, Shotley Bridge, Dryburn and Sunderland hospitals, and our thanks are due to them for services they have provided.

NURSING AND HEALTH VISITING SERVICES

Staffing

The establishment of 33 school nurses were in post at 31st December, 1973.

Workload

School nurses carried out hygiene surveys in schools and paid home visits when appropriate. When special problems arose they were supported by health visitors. School nurses were in attendance at school medical inspections, at examinations of County Council employees, college entrants for teacher training and handicapped pupils and attended specialist sessions for audiology and vision testing. They tested pupils vision using Keystone equipment prior to school medical inspections, carried out Heaf Testing and assisted at immunisation sessions. Home visits were made to advise on the prevention of the spread of infection, to follow-up defects noted at school medical inspections, to advise defaulters from attendance for specialist or clinic appointments and to supervise enuresis equipment.

Usworth Comprehensive School

As reported in my last annual report, arrangements were made for a state enrolled nurse to be employed in the above school undertaking those duties included in the specific job description for that post. This experiment is continuing.

In-Service Training

School nurses continued to play an active part in all in-service training making a contribution with their colleagues to the various courses.

HEALTH EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

The development of the liaison services offered to education establishments continued during the year. There has been a notable increase in the number of schools seeking advice and support for health education programmes within their curriculum.

The services of the health education section were sought on matters of information, resource agencies, information packs, resource packs, use of visual aids, provision of displays, specialist speakers, and in the organisation and implementation of specific health education courses. These are increasingly tailored to meet the needs of the school involved and range from six session courses to courses extending over the academic year. Many of the courses include the provision of specialist speakers and outside visiting.

All education establishments received campaign literature on 6 occasions during the year when the topic was appropriate to them. The topics were nutrition, smoking, return of medicines, food hygiene, venereal diseases and dental health.

The uptake of visual aids increased sharply during the year and many schools now have a regular programme of bookings. Liaison was maintained with the colleges of education, teachers centres and teaching staff through their involvement in in-service programmes organised by the section.

Over 200 student teachers and senior pupils visited the section as part of an educational programme or to receive help with project work.

A number of schools in the Chester-le-Street area actively supported the storage of medicines campaign held in June and July. Several thousand leaflets and posters were distributed to parents by school children and the schools themselves organised instruction on the use and storage of medicines. As a result of the campaign a selection of students' written and poster work was displayed in the local library.

PROVISION OF SCHOOL MEALS

Statistics showing the position on 31st December, 1973:-

Central Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	27
School Canteens -						
Secondary	...	...	...	...	...	100
Primary	...	...	...	...	...	220
Nursery	...	...	...	...	...	21
School Dining Centres	...	...	...	...	...	246
Meals supplied during 12 months ended 31st December, 1973:-						
Free	...	...	...	...	...	3,128,492
On Payment	...	...	...	...	...	<u>12,182,005</u>
TOTAL						<u><u>15,310,497</u></u>

PROVISION OF MILK IN SCHOOLS

In accordance with regulations made under the Education (Milk) Act 1971, the provision of free school milk on and after 1st September 1971 was restricted to:-

- (a) Pupils in special schools
- (b) Pupils in maintained schools up to the end of the summer term next after they attain the age of 7 years.
- (c) Other pupils in primary schools and junior pupils in all-age schools and middle schools where a school medical officer considers that the pupils health requires that he should be provided with milk at school.

During 1973, 154 children were recommended for free school milk as a result of findings at routine school medical inspections and special examinations in the clinic. This compares with a figure of 101 children during 1972.

NUTRITIONAL SURVEILLANCE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AND OTHER NATIONAL SURVEYS.

(a) The second year of the five year national survey of nutrition in school children, under the direction of Professor W.W. Holland of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Social Medicine, St. Thomas's Hospital, London, continued in April 1973. Some 250 children from the Church of England Junior Mixed and Infants School, Barnard Castle took part, each child being measured for height, weight and skinfold thickness; and each parent asked to complete a comprehensive questionnaire.

The assistance of head teachers and staff at the school together with the co-operation of the parents has been invaluable in the successful completion of this years survey.

It is hoped in the near future to include measurements of atmospheric pollution of the Barnard Castle area, the information gained will form part of the findings at the end of the five year period.

(b) The survey designed to investigate nutritional status of pre-school children commenced in June 1973 in Washington, Felling and Consett U.D.'s and in Darlington R.D. The survey was conducted by Dr. P. Fox of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Security. The data from this survey will be linked with the information gained from the survey on school children described above.

(c) During 1973, the second phase of the British Births Child Study of children born 5th to 11th April 1970 was completed. The method of study was by home visit and completion of a medical questionnaire by a medical officer.

(d) During the latter half of the year, notification was received of the third follow-up of the National Child Development Study under the direction of the National Childrens Bureau of children born 3rd to 9th March 1958. At the present time the children involved are being medically examined by departmental medical officers in clinics and audiograms carried out in school by an audiometrician. It is hoped in early 1974 to continue the study with the completion of parental questionnaires by health visiting staff.

PART III

STATISTICAL TABLES

A. HEALTH.

TABLE I
HOME NURSING STATISTICS

Place where first treatment took place	Number treated during 1973 by age			
	Under 5	5-64	65 and over	Total
Patients home	694	6805	10370	17869
Health centre	73	1261	501	1835
G.P.'s premises	574	5225	2186	7985
Child health clinic	-	3	10	13
Hospital	-	-	-	-
Residential home	-	9	151	160
Elsewhere	4	5	8	17
	1345	13308	13226	27879

TABLE 2
TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS:

Age Period	New Cases						
	Respiratory.			Non-Respiratory.			Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
0	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
1	2	1	3	-	1	1	4
5	9	5	14	-	-	-	14
15	6	7	13	-	1	1	14
25	10	5	15	4	3	7	22
35	11	6	17	-	2	2	19
45	21	4	25	2	2	4	29
55	22	5	27	2	1	3	30
65	20	3	23	-	2	2	25
75 and upwards ..	5	2	7	1	-	1	8
Age Unknown	2	1	3	-	-	-	3
Totals ...	108	40	148	9	12	21	169

TABLE 3

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated against smallpox
for whom records were received during the year 1973

District	VACCINATED Age (years) at date of vaccination					RE-VACCINATED Age (years) at date of re-vaccination				
	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 15	Total	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 15	Total
Area No. 1										
Blaydon U.D.	-	8	7	58	73	-	-	3	92	95
Ryton U.D.	-	2	2	31	35	-	-	4	37	41
Whickham U.D.	-	2	5	38	45	-	-	1	61	62
Area No. 2										
Jarrow M.B.	2	1	7	24	34	-	-	2	18	20
Felling U.D.	1	1	-	65	67	-	-	7	65	72
Hebburn U.D.	2	-	2	24	28	-	-	-	36	36
Area No. 3										
Consett U.D.	-	2	3	45	50	-	-	6	51	57
Stanley U.D.	-	6	4	23	33	-	-	1	28	29
Lanchester R.D.	-	1	1	42	44	-	-	-	40	40
Area No. 4										
Chester-le-Street U.D.	-	5	5	37	47	-	-	7	63	70
Chester-le-Street R.D.	1	7	9	51	68	-	-	-	85	85
Area No. 5										
Boldon U.D.	-	3	2	17	22	-	-	-	52	52
Hetton U.D.	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	2	2
Houghton-le-Spring U.D.	-	2	6	58	66	-	-	-	62	62
Seaham U.D.	-	1	1	14	16	-	-	-	10	10
Washington U.D.	3	4	6	88	101	-	-	-	102	102
Area No. 6										
Crook & Willington U.D.	-	-	1	28	29	-	-	-	14	14
Tow Law U.D.	-	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	3	3
Weardale R.D.	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	8	8
Area No. 7										
Durham M.B.	4	1	10	69	84	-	-	1	87	88
Brandon & Byshottles U.D.	-	1	-	15	16	-	-	-	16	16
Spennymoor U.D.	-	-	2	20	22	-	-	-	18	18
Durham R.D.	4	7	8	32	51	-	-	14	81	95
Sedgefield R.D.	2	5	9	44	60	-	-	1	46	47
Stockton R.D.	1	-	2	5	8	-	-	-	9	9
Area No. 8										
Barnard Castle U.D.	-	1	-	10	11	-	-	-	19	19
Barnard Castle R.D.	-	-	-	7	7	-	-	-	6	6
Area No. 9										
Bishop Auckland U.D.	1	3	1	24	29	-	-	-	54	54
Shildon U.D.	-	2	1	18	21	-	-	-	27	27
Darlington R.D.	1	1	5	34	41	-	-	3	80	83
Easington R.D.	2	15	15	65	97	-	-	2	88	90
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY	24	81	115	994	1214	-	-	52	1360	1412

TABLE 4.

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS, POLIOMYELITIS AND MEASLES IMMUNISATION

Number of persons immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and measles for whom records were received in 1973.

Type of Vaccine	Completed Primary Courses					Others Under 16 Years	Total	Reinforcing Doses					Others Under 16 Years	Total
	Year of Birth							Year of Birth						
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1966-69			1973	1972	1971	1970	1966-69		
Triple DTP	20	7,750	1,537	163	154	8	9,632	-	3	12	9	326	29	379
Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	-	7	21	60	134	222	-	3	8	22	8,590	203	8,826
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Tetanus	-	-	1	-	11	546	558	-	-	-	5	49	909	963
Sabin	22	7,896	1,563	199	596	101	10,377	-	8	19	23	8,913	228	9,191
Measles	-	5,567	2,609	437	388	29	9,030	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Number of Children Immunised														
Diphtheria	20	7,750	1,544	184	214	144	9,856	-	6	20	31	8,917	232	9,206
Whooping Cough	20	7,750	1,537	163	154	8	9,632	-	3	12	9	326	29	379
Tetanus	20	7,750	1,547	184	225	688	10,412	-	6	20	36	8,965	1,141	10,168
Poliomyelitis	22	7,896	1,563	199	596	101	10,377	-	8	19	23	8,913	228	9,191
Measles	-	5,567	2,609	437	388	29	9,030	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE 5

AMBULANCE SERVICE - STATISTICS, 1964-73

Year	No. of journeys	OUT-PATIENTS ONLY			GENERAL SERVICE [†]			EMERGENCY SERVICE			TOTAL GENERAL AND EMERGENCY CASES			Total mileage		Strength at 31st Dec.	
		Stretcher cases	Sitting cases	Total	Stretcher cases	Sitting cases	Total	Stretcher cases	Sitting cases	Total	Stretcher cases	Sitting cases	Total			Vehi- cles	*Depot staffs
1964	97,714	15,567	304,843	320,410	28,714	349,623	378,337	25,561	7,251	32,812	54,275	356,874	411,149	2,629,853		117	292
1965	96,072	13,165	297,131	310,296	26,029	340,653	366,682	25,530	7,814	33,344	51,559	348,467	400,026	2,600,320		130	286
1966	96,665	12,229	295,772	308,001	24,496	338,878	363,374	25,919	8,151	34,070	50,415	347,029	397,444	2,624,199		134	312
*1967	96,695	13,390	303,062	316,452	24,916	343,866	368,782	25,361	8,420	33,781	50,277	352,286	402,563	2,696,792		140	319
*1968	84,755	16,309	274,605	290,914	25,549	309,552	335,101	21,918	6,971	28,889	47,467	316,523	363,990	2,467,313		135	310
1969	84,094	14,827	277,045	291,872	23,846	312,541	336,387	23,079	7,921	31,000	46,925	320,462	367,387	2,534,226		139	322
1970	87,174	16,968	290,925	307,893	25,801	325,043	350,844	24,179	8,112	32,291	49,980	333,155	383,135	2,615,235		137	330
1971	90,048	19,754	317,314	337,068	28,850	352,342	381,192	24,168	9,130	33,298	53,018	361,472	414,490	2,783,249		138	332
1972	91,578	22,708	319,913	342,621	31,686	353,016	384,702	25,361	8,907	34,268	57,047	361,923	418,970	2,792,807		140	334
1973	85,602	20,216	282,875	303,091	28,354	309,356	337,710	25,999	8,367	34,366	54,353	317,723	372,076	2,518,423		145	323

*Does not include Control staff.

†Boundary changes (Population decreases 1967 - 44,500; 1968 - 113,000).

‡Includes figures shown under "Out-Patients Only".

TABLE 6

SUMMARY OF CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

DISTRICTS	Est. Popula- tion 1973	Scarlet Fever		Whoop- ing Cough		Measles				Tuberculosis				Acute Encephalitis				Dysent- ery				Oph- thalmia Neona- torium				Para- Typhoid Fever				Food Poisson- ing				Infec- tive Jaundice				Acute Menin- gitis				Totals						
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F							
Area No. 1 Blaydon U.D. Ryton U.D. Whickham U.D.		2	-	-	1	3	3	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	12	12	12	22	49						
Area No. 2 Jarrow M.B. Felling U.D. Hebburn U.D.		-	-	12	9	2	4	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	91	16						
Area No. 3 Consett U.D. Stanley U.D. Lanchester R.D.		-	-	-	-	2	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	88	27						
Area No. 4 Chester-le-Street U.D. Chester-le-Street R.D.		-	-	-	-	1	5	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	39	6	26					
Area No. 5 Boldon U.D. Hetton U.D. Houghton-le-Spring U.D. Seaham U.D. Washington U.D.		1	1	-	-	9	10	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	7	16	1	6	39	67		
Area No. 6 Crook & Willington U.D. Tow Law U.D. Weardale R.D.		2	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	-	2				
Area No. 7 Durham M.B. Brandon & Byshottles U.D.		-	1	-	-	5	7	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	8	21	48	59	1		
Area No. 8 Barnard Castle U.D. Barnard Castle R.D.		-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	11					
Area No. 9 Bishop Auckland U.D. Shildon U.D. Darlington R.D.		7	5	1	2	29	24	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	18	25	16	36	25	16
Easington R.D.		1	4	1	-	25	27	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46	40					
Administrative County		71	87	52	57	483	472	106	39	-	2	9	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	28	1	-	-	1	40	24	46	63	19	19	853	-	-	-	-	-	-	802							

DETAILS OF EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES OF UNTREATED, PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK
COLLECTED BY OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TABLE 7

	No. of samples taken	Methylene Blue Test				Phosphatase Test			Biological Test for Tuberculosis, etc.					Turbidity Test		Colony Count	
		Passed	Failed	Incon- clusive	% Failed	Passed	Failed	% Failed	No. of samples taken	Negative	Positive	Incon- clusive	% Positive	No. of samples taken (all satisfactory)	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	
Pasteurised Milk (a) Dairies (b) Schools (c) Hospitals (d) Dealers	219	160	15	4	8.6	219	-	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	52	42	9	1	19.2	52	-	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	202	182	9	6	7.4	202	-	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	2,137	1,893	137	107	6.7	2,133	4	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	2,610	2,277	170	118	10.1	2,606	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Untreated Milk (a) Farms (b) Dealers	464	419	39	6	9.6	-	-	-	78	-	-	-	0%	-	-	-	
	160	114	37	14	31.8	-	-	-	39	-	-	-	0%	-	-	-	
	624	533	71	20	14.5	-	-	-	117	117	-	-	0%	-	-	-	
Sterilised Milk (a) Dairies (b) Dealers	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	
	344	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	344	343	1	
	350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350	349	1	
Ultra-Heat Treated	119	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119	-	
TOTALS	3,703	2,810	241	138	2.9	2,606	4	0%	117	117	-	-	0%	350	349	1	

TABLE 8.

NUMBER OF CERVICAL SMEAR TESTS CARRIED OUT AT LOCAL AUTHORITY SESSIONS - 1973

Centre	Number of Sessions held	Number of Smears taken	Number of Repeat Smears*	Number of Positive Cases	Number of smears taken from persons resident outside administrative county*
Consett ...	17	486	85	2	-
Hebburn ...	7	186	47	1	5
Houghton-le-Spring ...	7	196	2	1	1
Newton Aycliffe ...	8	215	1	-	3
Stanley ...	3	71	6	-	-
Seaham ...	4	110	3	-	3
Stanhope ...	2	80	-	-	-
Easington R.D. ...	46	624	437	-	28
	<u>94</u>	<u>1,968</u>	<u>581</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>40</u>

* Included in number of smears taken

PART III

STATISTICAL TABLES

B. SCHOOL HEALTH.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TABLES RELATING TO THE INSPECTION AND
TREATMENT OF PUPILS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AREA EXCLUDING
THE EXCEPTED DIVISION OF EASINGTON.

The number of pupils on registers of maintained and assisted nursery,
primary, secondary and special schools in January, 1974 146,121

TABLE 9

Medical inspection of pupils attending maintained and assisted primary
and secondary schools (including nursery and special schools)

Periodic Medical Inspections

Age Groups Inspected (by year of birth)	Number of Pupils Inspected	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
		No.	No.
1969 and later	1,512	1,501	11
1968	5,531	5,511	20
1967	4,876	4,851	25
1966	1,159	1,145	14
1965	478	470	8
1964	219	216	3
1963	2,191	2,186	5
1962	5,500	5,483	17
1961	2,281	2,273	8
1960	157	153	4
1959	88	86	2
1958 and earlier ...	6,015	6,004	11
Total	30,007	29,879	128

Other Inspections

Number of special inspections	384
Number of re-inspections	15,156
Total	15,540

Notes:- A special inspection is one that is carried out at the special
request of a parent, doctor, nurse, teacher or other person.

A re-inspection is an inspection arising out of one of the periodic
medical inspections or out of a special inspection.

Infestation with Vermin

(a)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	156,959
(b)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	7,070
(c)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2) Education Act, 1944)	3,846
(d)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3) Education Act, 1944)	-

Note: - All cases of infestation, however slight, are included.

TABLE 10
DEFECTS FOUND BY PERIODIC AND SPECIAL MEDICAL
INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections									
	Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total		Special Inspections	
	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)
Skin	215	260	145	127	242	233	602	620	3	20
Eyes -										
(a) Vision ...	528	1677	506	626	760	1326	1794	3629	28	49
(b) Squint ...	216	326	45	63	152	222	413	611	6	9
(c) Other ...	34	63	8	17	27	50	69	130	-	2
Ears -										
(a) Hearing ...	158	824	13	52	95	363	266	1239	5	27
(b) Otitis Media	77	375	9	34	41	175	127	584	-	13
(c) Other ...	9	127	4	23	7	51	20	201	-	2
Nose and Throat	182	1317	32	103	111	505	325	1925	6	23
Speech ...	99	410	1	15	42	176	142	601	5	27
Lymphatic Glands	11	240	1	6	3	47	15	293	1	5
Heart ...	48	162	13	28	26	136	87	326	1	13
Lungs ...	54	397	20	62	43	275	117	734	2	23
Developmental -										
(a) Hernia ...	41	33	2	-	13	22	56	55	-	1
(b) Other ...	46	493	14	33	81	237	141	763	3	13
Orthopaedic -										
(a) Posture ...	1	50	1	12	5	49	7	111	-	2
(b) Feet ...	37	312	18	54	32	255	87	621	1	8
(c) Other ...	33	190	19	49	39	153	91	392	2	8
Nervous System -										
(a) Epilepsy	16	39	5	9	17	37	38	85	4	14
(b) Other ...	30	171	1	20	18	143	49	334	-	23
Psychological -										
(a) Development	21	354	11	57	43	372	75	783	2	42
(b) Stability...	15	299	6	33	34	229	55	561	1	30
Abdomen ...	18	153	9	21	15	134	42	308	2	7
Other ...	52	216	41	118	69	297	162	631	1	14

(T) Number of pupils found to need treatment
(O) Number of pupils found to need observation.

TABLE 11

Treatment of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary
Schools (Including Nursery and Special Schools).

Notes:- This part of the return gives the total numbers of:-

- (i) cases treated or under treatment during the year of members of the Authority's own staff;
- (ii) cases treated or under treatment during the year in the Authority's school clinics under National Health Service arrangements with the Regional Hospital Board; and
- (iii) cases known to the Authority to have been treated or under treatment elsewhere during the year.

Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	260
Errors of refraction (including squint) ...	12,633
Total ...	12,893
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	8,125

Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment:-	
(a) for diseases of the ear	222
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ..	1,110
(c) for other nose and throat conditions..	29
Received other forms of treatment	246
Total	1,607
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids:-	
(a) in 1973 (see note (i) below)	13
(b) in previous years (see note (ii) below)	234

- (i) A pupil recorded under (a) above is not recorded at (b) in respect of the supply of a hearing aid in a previous year.
- (ii) The number entered in (b) does not include children who have left school.

Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	-
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects	-
Total	-

Diseases of the Skin

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm - (a) Scalp	-
(b) Body	-
Scabies	-
Impetigo	-
Other skin diseases	-
Total	-

Child Guidance Treatment

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	510

Speech Therapy

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated by speech therapists	1,211

Other Treatment given

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	-
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	-
(c) Pupils who received BCG vaccination	11,707
(d) Other than (a) (b) and (c) above -	
Orthoptic	172
U.V.R.	-
Total	11,879

TABLE 12

HANDICAPPED PUPILS - DETAILS OF CLASSIFICATION AND PLACEMENT, 1973

(a) Blind Pupils

No. of children examined by consultant ophthalmologists during year	-
No. of children examined by school medical officers during year	1
School medical officers' recommendations:-	
(a) Special schools for blind pupils	1
(b) Education otherwise than at school	-
No. in special schools at end of year	14
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	-
No. requiring places in special schools	2

(b) Partially Sighted Pupils

No. of children examined by consultant ophthalmologists during year	-
No. of children examined by school medical officers during year	3
School medical officers' recommendations:-	
(a) Ordinary schools	2
(b) Special schools for partially sighted	1
(c) Education otherwise than at school	-
(d) Re-examination	6
No. in special schools at end of year	15
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	-
No. requiring places in special schools	-

(c) Deaf

No. of children examined during year	5
School medical officers' recommendations:-	
(a) Special schools for deaf children	5
(b) Other special schools	-
(c) Hospital schools	-
(d) Home tuition	-
No. in special schools at end of year	46
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	-
No. requiring places in special schools	-

(d) Partially Hearing

No. of children examined by school medical officers during year	27
School medical officers' recommendations:-	
(a) Ordinary schools	12
(b) Units for partially hearing children	15
(c) Special schools for partially hearing pupils	-
(d) Special schools for other categories	-

No. in special schools at end of year	5
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	-
No. requiring places in special schools	-
No. in units for partially hearing	107
No. awaiting places in units	-

(e) Physically Handicapped

No. of children examined during year	126
No. of children re-examined during year	332
School medical officers' recommendations:-	
(a) Ordinary schools	285
(b) Special schools for physically handicapped children ...	16
(c) Special schools for other categories	-
(d) Hospital special schools	-
(e) Education otherwise than at school	155
(f) Unsuitable for any school	-
(g) Re-examination	2
No. in special schools at end of year	104
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	65
No. requiring places in special schools	5

(f) Delicate

No. of children examined during year	32
No. of children re-examined during year	26
School medical officers' recommendations:-	
(a) Ordinary schools	37
(b) Special schools for delicate children... ..	12
(c) Education otherwise than at school	9
(d) Re-examination	-
(e) Special schools for other categories	-
No. in special schools at end of year	53
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	7
No. requiring places in special schools	1

(g) Epileptic

No. of children examined during year	6
No. of children re-examined during year	3
School medical officers' recommendations:-	
(a) Ordinary school	3
(b) Special school for epileptics	4
(c) Special school for other categories	-
(d) Re-examination	-
(e) Home tuition	2
No. in special schools at end of year... ..	12
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	4
No. requiring places in special schools	2

(h) Educationally Sub-normal Children

No. of children examined during year	...	...	...	...	161
Re-examinations	...	...	...	...	54
School medical officers' recommendations:-					
(a) Ordinary schools	...	...	...	...	12
(b) Special education in ordinary schools	...	...	...	...	-
(c) Special schools for educationally subnormal pupils	...	...	...	...	195
(d) Hospital schools	...	...	...	...	2
(e) Education otherwise than at school	...	...	...	...	4
No. in special schools at end of year	...	...	...	...	1,353
No. receiving special education in ordinary schools	...	...	...	...	4,400
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	...	...	...	...	15
No. requiring places in special schools	...	...	...	...	53

(i) Maladjusted Children

No. of children who attended child guidance centres during year	...	...	...	...	...	510
No. in special schools at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	90
No. in residential hostels at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	13
No. in special classes	...	...	...	...	...	-
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	...	...	...	...	...	8
No. requiring places in special schools	...	...	...	...	...	29

(j) Speech Defective Children

No. of children receiving speech therapy in schools, clinics or in hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	1,211
No. in special schools at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	-
No. receiving education otherwise than at school	...	...	...	...	...	-
No. requiring places in special schools	...	...	...	...	...	-

TABLE 13

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY, 1973
(excluding Easington)

(1) Attendances and Treatment

First visit	15,519
Subsequent visits	21,863
Additional courses of treatment commenced	1,493

Fillings:-

Permanent teeth	18,000
Deciduous teeth	12,399

Number of teeth filled:-

Permanent teeth	14,574
Deciduous teeth	11,082

Extractions:-

Permanent teeth	3,576
Deciduous teeth	14,305

Administration of general anaesthetics	5,413
---	-------

Emergencies	407
--------------------	-----

Other operations :-

Number of pupils x-rayed	901
Prophylaxis	2,575
Teeth otherwise conserved	1,177
Number of teeth root filled	30
Inlays	17
Crowns	37
Courses of treatment completed	14,041

(2) Orthodontic Work

Cases remaining from previous year	94
New cases commenced during year	228
Cases completed during year	128
Cases discontinued during year	20
No. of removable appliances fitted	206
No. of fixed appliances fitted	4
Pupils referred to hospital consultant	133

(3) Prosthetic Work

Pupils supplied with full upper or full lower (First time) ...	-
Pupils supplied with other dentures (First time)	47
Number of dentures supplied	50

(4) Anaesthetics									
General anaesthetics administered by dental officers	...								101
(5) Inspections									
(a) First inspection at school. Number of pupils	...	...							36,938
(b) First inspection at clinic. Number of pupils	...	...	...						4,293
Number of (a) & (b) found to require treatment	...	...							22,376
Number of (a) & (b) offered treatment	...	...	...	...					22,268
(c) Pupils re-inspected at school or clinic...	...	...	...						1,207
Number of (c) found to require treatment	...	...	...						670
(6) Sessions									
Sessions devoted to treatment	...	...	...	...	...				7,396
Sessions devoted to inspection	...	...	...	...	...				371
Sessions devoted to dental health education	...	...	...						150

Revised Figures for 1972 -

Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out
by the Authority, 1972 (excluding Easington)

Attendances and Treatment

First visit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,445
Subsequent visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,937
Additional courses of treatment commenced	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,459

Fillings

Permanent teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,983
Deciduous teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,128

Number of teeth filled

Permanent teeth...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,338
Deciduous teeth...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,749

Extractions

Permanent teeth...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,682
Deciduous teeth...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,478
Administration of general anaesthetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,294
Emergencies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	421

PART IV

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(Excepted District)

ANNUAL REPORT of the

DISTRICT PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

J.W.A. Rodgers, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

for the YEAR 1973.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

District Principal School Medical Officer.

J.W.A. Rodgers, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

1 School Medical Officer.

1 Area Dental Officer.

1 School Dental Officer.

2 Consultant Ophthalmologists. (Part-time)

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age groups inspected (By year birth)	No. of pupils who have received full medical examination	Physical Condition of pupils inspected		Pupils found to require treatment (excluding dental diseases and infestation with vermin)		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Defective vision (excluding squint)	For any other condition recorded at Part II	Total individual pupils
1969 and later	-	-	-	-	-	-
1968	25	24	1	3	9	9
1967	274	271	3	40	58	86
1966	620	619	1	70	114	165
1965	284	280	4	33	57	83
1964	13	13	-	1	2	3
1963	13	13	-	-	-	-
1962	8	8	-	1	1	1
1961	2	2	-	1	2	2
1960	-	-	-	-	-	-
1959	-	-	-	-	-	-
1958 and earlier	290	284	6	103	47	138
	1,529	1,514	15	252	290	487

The percentage of children whose physical condition was found to be unsatisfactory was 0.98% compared with 0.86% in 1972.

The number of children in schools at January, 1974 was 18,318 divided as follows:-

	Number of Schools	Children on Roll
Nursery	1	53
Primary	47	10,311
Secondary, Grammar, Comprehensive ...	13	7,788
E.S.N. Day	1	122
E.S.S. Day	1	44
	<u>63</u>	<u>18,318</u>

DEFECTS FOUND AT MEDICAL INSPECTIONS DURING YEAR

Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections									
	Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total		Special Inspections	
	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)
Skin	30	3	12	-	6	-	48	3	-	-
Eyes -										
(a) Vision ...	129	95	103	14	20	4	252	113	-	-
(b) Squint ...	35	4	4	-	7	-	46	4	-	-
(c) Other ...	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Ears -										
(a) Hearing...	20	75	-	6	3	5	23	86	-	-
(b) Otitis Media	3	10	4	2	1	1	8	13	-	-
(c) Other ...	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
Nose and Throat	51	93	4	6	2	8	57	107	-	-
Speech... ..	17	21	1	-	1	1	19	22	-	-
Lymphatic Glands	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	7	-	-
Heart	2	5	2	5	-	1	4	11	-	-
Lungs	19	12	3	12	2	7	24	31	-	-
Developmental -										
(a) Hernia ...	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
(b) Other ...	7	11	1	-	1	-	9	11	-	-
Orthopaedic -										
(a) Posture ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
(b) Feet ...	8	12	-	1	2	-	10	13	-	-
(c) Other ...	4	2	3	4	-	4	7	10	-	-
Nervous System -										
(a) Epilepsy	7	3	1	1	-	-	8	4	-	-
(b) Other ...	1	2	6	4	-	-	7	6	-	-
Psychological -										
(a) Development	4	14	-	2	-	2	4	18	-	-
(b) Stability	5	6	1	3	-	2	6	11	-	-
Abdomen ...	4	10	2	2	1	3	7	15	-	-
Other	22	8	8	-	3	-	33	8	-	-

(T) Number of Pupils found to need treatment

(O) Number of Pupils found to need observation

Nursing and Health Visitor Services

The school nurses carried out the majority of cleanliness inspections with some help from health visitors. 792 visits were made to schools, 42,273 inspections were carried out and 1,400 individual pupils were found to be infested. Following these inspections, 1,486 follow up visits were made to the children's homes.

School nurses also made 67 follow-up visits to the homes of those children who had been discharged from hospitals. They also carried out visits following complaints by head teachers and education welfare officers.

ANALYSIS OF CASES EXAMINED AT THE SCHOOL CLINICS DURING THE YEAR, 1973

Defect or Disease	No. of Cases	No. of Examinations
Cleanliness	-	-
Infestation -		
Head	3	4
Body	-	-
Teeth	-	-
Skin -		
(a) Ringworm of scalp	-	-
(b) Ringworm of body	-	-
(c) Other	19	22
Eyes -		
(a) Vision	34	40
(b) Squint	2	2
(c) Other	3	3
Ears -		
(a) Hearing	467	963
(b) Otitis Media (R	1	1
(L	-	-
(c) Other	1	1
Nose and throat	8	10
Speech	7	7
Lymphatic glands	1	1
Heart and circulation	2	3
Lungs	7	13
Development -		
(a) Hernia	-	-
(b) Other	2	2
Orthopaedic -		
(a) Posture	2	3
(b) Feet	2	3
(c) Other	5	6
Nervous system -		
(a) Epilepsy	2	2
(b) Other	4	4
Psychological -		
(a) Development	6	6
(b) Stability	53	83
Abdomen	8	10
General debility	13	17
Others	24	28
No appreciable defect or disease	-	-
Totals	676	1,234

Other Facilities for Medical Treatment

Vision Testing

Weekly sessions were held at Peterlee Clinic by Mr. J. Frankenthal, Consultant Ophthalmologist and at Wingate by Mr. C. Sharp, Consultant Ophthalmologist.

During the year, a total of 706 appointments were offered, 533 children were tested and spectacles were prescribed in 249 cases.

The school nurses continued to test children's vision in schools prior to school medical inspections.

Audiometric Testing

The audiometrician continued to visit infant and junior schools in order to carry out a sweep test of hearing and 44 schools were visited during the year. 3,386 children were tested and of these 253 i.e. 7.47% failed testing compared with 7.06% in 1972. The children who failed testing were then referred to audiometric clinics for further examination.

1,178 appointments for audiometric tests were arranged at school clinics throughout the area during the year and the results were as follows:-

Recommended for Partially hearing units	Referred to G.P.	For Further Observation	Appointments Not kept	No Further Action
3	72	626	229	248

Miscellaneous Medical Examinations (figures in brackets relate to 1972)

College Entrants and Intending Teachers	81 (103)
Superannuation and Sick Pay Cases	121 (84)
Part-time employment while still attending school ...	3 (1)

Physically and Mentally handicapped children are ascertained either at clinics or where necessary at home.

The following figures show the distribution of handicapped children in the various categories at the end of the year:-

Blind	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Partially Sighted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Partially Hearing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Physcially Handicapped	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Delicate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Epileptic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
E.S.N.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
E.S.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48

The above figures include pupils attending special schools at the end of the year and pupils recommended for special schools but who at the end of the year were still awaiting placement.

In all 55 children are attending special schools (apart from E.S.N. and E.S.S.)

(a) Blind

At the end of the year, 4 pupils were attending schools for the blind and 2 children were awaiting admission.

Partially Sighted

At the end of the year, 5 pupils were attending the day school for partially sighted and there were no children awaiting admission.

(b) Deaf

At the end of the year, 5 pupils were attending schools for the deaf and there were none awaiting admission.

Partially Hearing

At the end of the year, 14 pupils were attending the partially hearing unit at Durham and 2 were awaiting admission.

(c) Physically Handicapped

At the end of the year, 4 pupils were attending residential schools, 5 were attending Thornhill Day School and 1 at Thornfield Open Air School. 7 pupils were receiving home tuition and 12 were receiving special transport to ordinary schools. There were no pupils awaiting admission to schools for the physically handicapped.

(d) Delicate

At the end of the year, 2 pupils were attending residential schools, 3 were attending Thornhill Day School, 2 were receiving home tuition and 2 were receiving special transport to ordinary schools. 3 pupils were awaiting admission to special schools at the end of the year.

(e) Maladjusted

At the end of the year, 12 pupils were attending special schools for the maladjusted and 6 were awaiting placement.

(f) Educationally Sub-normal Pupils

At the end of the year, 20 pupils were attending residential E.S.N. schools and 124 attending the E.S.N. day school at Horden, (including 3 from outside the Easington Rural District Area). 5 pupils were awaiting admission to Horden Dene View Special School.

(g) Educationally Severely-Subnormal

At the end of the year, 1 pupil was in Aykley Heads Children's Home attending the local E.S.S. school and 44 were attending Easington Glenhill special school. 3 pupils were awaiting admission to Easington school at the end of the year.

DENTAL SERVICE

Mr. Coope, school dental officer, Peterlee, left the service at the beginning of October, and in spite of advertisements, the establishment is still one full time dental officer short.

We continue to have the services of Mr. D.A. Dixon, Consultant Orthodontist, and Dr. W.T. Fothergill and Dr. H.G. Saunders, Consultant Anaesthetists, attend all clinics to administer general anaesthetics.

We are grateful to Sunderland General Hospital Dental Unit for co-operation shown when patients have been referred there.

	Age 5-9	Age 10-14	Age 15+	Total
First visit	1,433	1,618	401	3,452
Subsequent visits	1,348	2,630	497	4,475
Total visits	2,781	4,248	898	7,927
Additional Courses of treatment				
commenced	150	243	44	437
Fillings in Permanent teeth ...	1,429	3,342	1,174	5,945
Fillings in Deciduous teeth ...	1,306	55	-	1,361
Permanent teeth filled	1,055	2,878	1,069	5,002
Deciduous teeth filled	1,114	55	-	1,169
Permanent teeth extracted ...	88	648	140	876
Deciduous teeth extracted ...	1,995	982	-	2,977
General Anaesthetics	530	307	26	863
Emergencies	79	50	9	138
Number of Pupils x-rayed				385
Prophylaxis				526
Teeth otherwise conserved				135
Number of teeth root filled				14
Inlays				-
Crowns				8
Courses				2,889

Orthodontics

Cases remaining from previous year	81
New cases commenced during year	160
Cases completed during year	120
Cases discontinued during year	36
No. of removable appliances fitted	194
No. of fixed appliances fitted	5
Pupils referred to hospital consultant	14

Prosthetics

	5-9	10-14	15+	Total
Pupils supplied with F.U. or F.L. (1st time)	-	-	-	-
Pupils supplied with other dentures (1st time)	2	16	11	29
Number of dentures supplied	2	17	14	33

Anaesthetics

General anaesthetics administered by dental officers -

Inspections

(a) First inspection at school. Number of pupils 6,438

(b) First inspection at clinic. Number of pupils 1,207

 Number of (a) & (b) found to require treatment 3,134

 Number of (a) & (b) offered treatment 3,121

(c) Pupils re-inspected at school or clinic 1,087

 Number of (c) found to require treatment 475

Sessions

Sessions devoted to treatment 1,010

Sessions devoted to inspection 44

Sessions devoted to dental health education 1

